

July 10, 1949
Rep. Albert Gore

Good Morning, Friends:

The most important happening of the past week in the Nation's Capital is the historic debate in the United States Senate on the North Atlantic Pact. The problem before the Senate is ratification of that treaty to which the representatives of twelve nations have affixed their signature.

This historic debate on the North Atlantic Pact is being conducted in an historic chamber. I am sure you have noticed that both the House and the Senate have had to vacate their regular chambers in order that repairs may be made to the roofs, which engineers have said have been threatening to literally cave in on our heads.

The Senate moved to the old Senate chamber. I am sure you remember seeing pictures in your elementary history books of spectators hanging over the small gallery of the Senate listening to the Webster-Haney debates. This historic North Atlantic Pact debate is being held in that same small chamber, which was vacated by the Senate after a new and much larger wing was added to the Capitol. The Supreme Court then occupied this small chamber or auditorium until the new marble Supreme Court building was erected a few years ago. ^{Since} ~~As soon as~~ the Supreme Court left the chamber it has been left unoccupied but open to the view of the millions of tourists who annually pass through the portals of this Nation's Capitol.

Speaker, The membership of the Senate is much larger now than it was in the early days and they are finding the accommodations exceedingly cramped.

The House of Representatives has been meeting for the past week in the caucus room. This room is several times larger than the room in which the Senate is meeting but then there are 435 Members of the House and the House staff to accommodate. So, we on the House side are quite cramped and over-crowded, too. ^{and, besides, the facilities are inadequate} ~~physical layouts~~ in every way.

It was my privilege to preside over the consideration of a controversial bill last Friday and I found it much harder to maintain order and give accurate counts on standing votes under these circumstances. ^{But this does not mean that Congress is going wrong in any way as some have suggested.}

When is Congress going to adjourn? A good many people asked me that question when I was home in Tennessee over the Fourth of July. Well, I do not know but my guess is about August 20. There is a good deal more work cut out for Congress before it can go home. Much work yet remains on appropriation bills. As I have said ~~two or three times~~ before on this program, the Senate is way behind on consideration of appropriation bills. All of them are supposed to have been ~~passed and become law~~ ^{enacted into before now} but most of them ^{yet} have not even passed the Senate. All ~~of us~~ now await the very important ^{Then} decision on the North Atlantic Pact. ^{And} there is still the question of labor legislation, the reciprocal trade agreements act has not been passed by the Senate and plans are underway to pass a farm bill before Congress adjourns. ^{The farm bill} This bill is scheduled to come up before the House probably about next Wednesday, and ~~there is~~ the rural telephone bill which is scheduled to come up in the House ~~next~~ ^{soon, probably next} Tuesday.

Congress has now been in session for more than six months. Senate and House Members have introduced more than 8,600 bills. Fortunately, all of these bills have not passed, but to indicate the size of the work load we have been up against, Congressional committees have approved more than 1,500 of these bills. The House has actually passed 821 ~~bills~~ and the Senate 522. 291 have passed the last hurdle and have become law. These figures will indicate the size of the backlog of work still before Congress, with more than 1,500 bills approved by committees, ^{and} with only 291 of that amount having become law, you can see that we still have about 1,300 bills that have been approved by committees now pending action by the House and Senate. So that is why I say we are not going home right away. We've got to do our job first.

Well,

Congress is ~~now~~ ^{very} curious ^{about} to read the contents of the President's economic report that is scheduled to be submitted to the Congress tomorrow.

These quarterly reports are always awaited with interest, but the curiosity and interest has been heightened ^{in this case} ~~now~~ because of ^{the} nervous condition of ^{national} economic indices. So another interesting week is in prospect - And I will give you a report on its developments next Sunday - That is all for now.

entitled exclusively to the
of all news dispatches credited
otherwise credited in this paper and
of spontaneous origin published herein
rights of republication of all other matter herein are
also reserved.

THE REASON FOR THE PACT

The Senate debate on the North Atlantic Treaty had an auspicious start yesterday when, in a speech of high resolve, Senator Connally, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, urged swift approval of the Pact in order to provide unmistakable proof that this time the free nations will stand together to defend their liberties against a threat from any quarter. He emphasized strongly the purely defensive purpose of the Treaty, which unsheathes no sword, drops no bomb and sets no soldier on the march except in case of armed attack. And he clarified anew the fact that there is nothing in this Pact which automatically commits the United States to war or impairs the exclusive right of Congress to declare war.

At the same time, he also emphasized the fact that the defense of the free world can be made effective only if the free nations coordinate and consolidate their forces into an organic whole, lest, like the ten European countries already subjugated by Russia, they be conquered one by one. Finally, he warned Congress to face the realities of the international situation instead of looking for escape clauses or attempting to minimize the obligations we assume. Any such effort will only impair the value of the Treaty and disservice to our country and to the cause of peace.

In this cause Senator Connally found powerful support in the speeches delivered on Independence Day by General Smith, former Ambassador to Moscow, and by Defense Secretary Johnson. While holding that the growing military strength of the United States has halted the tide of Communist expansion in Europe, General Smith also warned that this check may be only temporary, and that in any case the "cold war" continues as a contest of indefinite duration, in which the prize of peace will be won only by patience, firmness, resolution and, above all, by strength. "Peace through strength" was also Mr. Johnson's

and Smith made

two
fore
in t
Unite
ploymen

1948 from 4,111
Russia, we are told
tion was available
news summaries or
to say, "the Soviet
the U. N. that it had
problem."

That we can be
achieved "full employ
ing conditions on he
amount to virtual er
this is not an allusio
camps," which, needless
tute a very important
son why comparisons ei
ment or production bet
Union and this co
Russia may have
problem" at the n
Government is co
the unemploymen
cerned. But we
workers might fe
workers have som
since they are payi
"favorable" statisti
able in part by th
freedom in the se
workers know it, i
decline in their livi
has carried real v
cent in the last tw
same period, it is
the real wages of
have risen by almos
amount.

EXPENSIVE

Every holiday we
pleasure and of I
those who celebrate
pain for those who
fearful toll of accide
occur. This Fourth
to form—except th
accidental deaths fro
to Monday midnight
for any comparable
the nation's history.
persons lost their liv
pr

theme. And General [redacted] it plain that if our strength is to serve the purposes of peace it must not merely consist of a defense potential but must actually exist and must be apparent to all concerned. Under the North Atlantic Treaty our strength becomes part of the strength of the European signatories, just as their strength—or their weakness—in turn, becomes part of ours. It is because of this inescapable connection, which ties our security to West-European liberty, that both Mr. Johnson and Senator Connally urge Congress to approve not only the Pact itself but also the program of military aid to our allies.

In all these considerations the proponents of "peace through strength" at last give proper emphasis to a factor which unfortunately was largely overlooked at the wartime conferences and in our post-war military policy—namely, the role and influence of power in international affairs. While we in the West trusted to paper agreements and wrecked our war machine as soon as the war was over, Russia never lost sight of the power factor and not only seized every country it could lay hands upon but also exploited our own self-imposed weakness, to reach out beyond its military frontiers through Communist elements which found their own strength and momentum in the backing openly provided to them by Russian power. That expansion by infiltration may now be checked. But it is all too plain, and it was frankly announced by Mr. Stalin himself as early as February, 1946, that Russia is building up its military strength.

It is doing so by maintaining and modernizing the largest army in the world and arming its satellites in defiance of treaties and at a cost which in terms of national income far exceeds our own armament budget. Moreover, Russia is openly attempting to regiment, within its wide orbit of influ-

~ evious Fourth of J
1941. At least it is not a single fatality w fireworks. Traffic acci
ings led the list. Of cou
deaths were avoidable.
The sacrifice of even
high a price to pay for
carelessness.

"BRASS H

Bernard M. Baruch
ments at the Industrial
Armed Forces about 1
of our economic mob
somewhat overshadowed
no less germane defense
hats" in American life.
has had close contacts
tary during a major pa
and useful public career
ited remarks about the
tributions to the nati
States Army, Navy a
leaders should be heart w
services at a time whe
of many in the officer c
what depressed.

What Mr. Baruch terms
of the American democ
professional soldiering wi
liberty" has been, indeed,
safeguards of our way of
tradition—the love of libert
subordination of military
control—must continue to
pass by which our militar
Americans first, soldier
orient themselves in the
new world of the atomic
Mr. Baruch pointed out,
given our military leade
been commensurate wit
bilities thrust upon the
principles that we ex
hold. One cannot r
ship; nor do materia
young men to enter
services of their count
pay—a chance to brin